Report on the Committee on DVC fire

2526. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: "Will the Minister of' ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Committee which enquired into the fire on DVC complex at Durgapur has since submitted its report;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that it has recommended the closing down of two generators of 75 MWT each; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) and (c) The Committee has recommended decommissioning of damaged units 1 and 2 of derated capacity of 55 MW each. These units are being dismantled. The question of recommission-ing of these units will be considered after the dismantling is completed and the condition of the civil structures and equipment is examined.

Leakage of poisonous gas in coal field

2527. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that leakage of poisonous gas occurred in a coal field under Eastern Coalfields Limited on 21st October, 1986;

(b) if so, how many persons were affected and had to be hospitalised;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there have been complaints of negligence against the management of the unit; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b) The fact of the case is that on 21-10-86, the Collery Agent, Manager and five workers of the Searsole Unit of Mahabir Colliery under Kinustoria Area had gone to inspect old workings at No. 1 Pit of the Colliery when they felt oxygen deficiency, possibly due to blackdamp, and felt uneasiness. Five workers and the Manager were kept under observation in Company's hospital at Bansra. Four of them were released on the same day while others were released after two days.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Tender for NLC Spreader project

2528. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited. Tamil Nadu has issued a letter of intent for its Spreader Project to a party which had never built such spreaders, in the past;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Technical Consultant did not intend to Include the same party in the list of sup-
. pliers for the second mine expansion project of NLC due to its inexperience in such projects;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and date of issue of such letter of intent and details of other parties from abroad who participated in the tender bid, each party's cost evaluation of the Spreader Project including their Indian collaborators' quotations and the amount of loan provided for the purpose by the KFW-West Germany Government financial agency; and

(d) what further steps are proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (d) M/s. MAN of West Germany in collaboration with M/s. W.M.I. Cranes, India were one

of the parties who responded to Neyveli Lignite Corporation's global tender enquiry for the purchase of Spreaders for the second mine expansion project. Initially, M/s. Rheinbraun Consulting had not recommended MAN for short-listing for Spreaders on the ground that they lacked adequate experience of manufacturing Spreaders. However, on the basis of the range and variety of equipment for which MAN had been recommended and had supplied in the past and the fact that M/s. Rheinbraun had qualified MAN for the supply of more sophisticated equipment, NLC decided to keep MAN in the shortlist. This decision was concurred in by M/s. Rheinbraun and the West German financing agency, KFW. NLC issued a letter of intent to M/s. MAN of West Germany and their Indian collaborator M/s. W.M.I. Cranes for the supply of 2 Nos. of Spreaders on 10th May, 198(5.

Two other parties from West Germany viz., M/s. Mannesmann Demag and M/s. Krupp in collaboration with their Indian associates had initially participated in the tender enquiry. However, at the time of final evaluation of the bids only M/s. MAN and M/s. Mannesmann Demag were under consideration. Final evaluated prices of both these parties are given below. M/s. MAN's offer was lower :—

Name of supplier 15id—	Evaluated December 85 (in Rs. crores)
1. MAN	79.12
2. MANNESMANN DEMAG	80.37

KFW has agreed to extend its loan to cover the foreign exchange expenditure on the import of equipment including Spreaders and services from West Germany for the second mine expansion project. The total loan is estimated to be about DM 430 million.

Collaboration with Japan for setting up of export oriented projects

2529. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any suggestions or proposals have been received, from japan for collaboration with Indian companies in setting up export oriented projects in India;

(b) if so, what are the terms and conditions of the proposals and whether transfer of technology will be undertaken for all such projects; and

(c) what are the names of the major projects and industries which are being considered for collaboration with Japan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENOFINDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The initiative for selection of sources of technology is left to the Indian entcrpreneurs. They explore the alternative sources of technology, make a techno-economic analysis of the proposed foreign collaboration and select the foreign collabrator whose offer suits them best.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Details of the proposals which are under consideration are not revealed. Hawever, details of all approved foreign cellaborations. showing the names of Indian and foreign firms, item of manufacture and nature of collaboration are published by Indian Investment Centre as a supplement to its monthly news letter. Copies of this publication are sent regularly to Parliament Library.